

Serial No. 10/621,403
Amendment dated June 29, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 21, 2006

Docket No. K-0526

REMARKS

Claims 1-47 are pending. Claim 12 has been amended and claims 37-47 have been added.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-19, 21-23, 25-29, 31, 32, 35, and 36 were once again rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious in view of Hogan-Kido combination. This rejection is respectfully traversed on grounds that the Examiner has misunderstood the teachings of the applied references.

Claim 1 recites storing “service limit information . . . in a network circuit based on preferences of a user of the radio device,” and that this service limit information “designates at least one location preselected by the user within which said at least one service is to be limited.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

The Hogan application discloses a system for controlling when a mobile terminal can and cannot receive service when traveling between cells of a mobile network. As emphasized in Applicant’s previous responses, in Hogan the operator of the mobile network makes the decision as to whether there is an access restriction, not the user of a mobile terminal. (See page 4, Paragraph [0036], which discloses: “The present invention allows the operators to place access restrictions on specific locations areas . . .”) The Hogan application, therefore, does not store service limit information for one or more locations in a mobile network “based on preferences of a user of the radio device” where the service limit information “designates at least one

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location preselected by the user within which said at least one service is to be limited” as recited in claim 1. The Examiner seemed to acknowledge these deficiencies of Hogan in the Office Action

To make up for these deficiencies, the Kido patent was cited. The Examiner has maintained that columns 11 and 12 of this patent teach or suggest the features of claim 1 missing from the Hogan application. Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that the Examiner has misunderstood the Kido patent including the disclosures at columns 11 and 12.

The Kido patent discloses a system for performing a handoff operation between adjacent cells in a mobile network. To perform this operation, the location of a mobile terminal is first determined. The mobile terminal is then registered within a plurality of overlapping coverage areas based on its location. This is shown, for example, in Figure 5 with respect to mobile terminal 32₁, which is found to lie in overlapping regions 12₂, 13₃, and 17₁. When these overlapping regions are identified, terminal 32₁ is registered to be located in these areas. See Figure 6 showing a table including this registered area information. See also column 8, lines 57-67 which describe this registration information in detail.

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner drew a correspondence between the registered area information of Kido and the “service limit information” of the claimed invention. Use of this registered area information to limit service is disclosed at column 11, lines 43-48, which was specifically relied on by the Examiner. Here, Kido discloses that mobile services switching center 44 compares the present location of mobile terminal 32 to the stored registered area information,

such as shown in the table of Figure 6. If there is a match, call service is connected in a handoff cell. And if no match exists, the call service is not connected.

While Kido does disclose limiting call connection service to a handoff cell, it does not teach or suggest that the registered area information is stored “based on preferences of a user of the radio device,” and that this service limit information “designates at least one location preselected by the user within which said at least one service is to be limited” as cited in claim 1. On the contrary, the Kido patent makes clear that the registered area information is designated by network operators based on a current location of the terminal relative to overlapping coverage areas:

The registration of the registered areas in the subscriber information storage area 61 is conducted one by one by the *registration staff (operators of the CDMA-WLL controller 45)* when a new CDMA-WLL mobile station 32 is registered, based on location information of the CDMA-WLL mobile station 32 and a coverage area map like the one shown in Fig. 5. (Column 9, lines 15-21)(Emphasis added)

Alternatively, the Kido patent discloses that a database may determine the registered area information based on numbers assigned to the overlapping coverage areas:

It is also possible to prepare a database in which each coverage area is expressed numerically and let the database figure out appropriate registered areas for each CDMA-WLL mobile station 32 based on location information of the CDMA-WLL mobile station 32. (Column 9, lines 21-25)(Emphasis added)

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From these and other disclosures at columns 11 and 12, it is clear that the purpose of the registered area information in Kido is to prevent a call from being handed off into a cell which is overburdened with traffic or has low signal strength. (See column 11, lines 8-27). See also column 8, lines 63-67:

By allowing the overlapping three coverage areas 12₂, 13₃, and 17₁, the communication by use of the CDMA-WLL mobile station 32, is ensured even when the origination restriction for a new mobile station is in operation in part of the registered areas due to congestion. (Emphasis added)

The Kido patent, thus, fails to teach or suggest the features of claim 1 missing from the Hogan application. Absent a teaching or suggestion of these features, it is respectfully submitted that a *prima facie* case of obviousness of claim 1 and its dependent claims has not been established. Allowance of claim 1 and its dependent claims is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 17, 18, 25 and 32 recite features similar to those which patentably distinguish claim 1 from a Hogan-Kido combination. Accordingly, it is submitted that these claims and their dependent claims are allowable.

Claims 3, 6, 20, 30, and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious in view of a Hogan-Kido-Vasa combination, and claim 33 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious in view of the Hogan-Kido-Rune combination. Claims 3, 6, 20, 30, and 33 are dependent claims and therefore necessarily incorporate the features of their base claims. In order to render claims 3, 6, 20, 30, and 33 obvious, the Vasa and Rune patents must therefore teach or

suggest all the features in base claims 1, 18, 18, 25, and 32 missing from a Hogan-Kido combination.

The Vasa patent was cited for its disclosure of originating and terminating a short message service, and the Rune patent was cited for its disclosure of reporting in advance the subscriber of a service limit area based on movement of a target location. The Vasa and Rune patents, however, do not teach or suggest storing service limit information in a mobile network that designates at least one location preselected by a user of a mobile device within which at least one service is to be limited.

Absent a teaching or suggestion of these features, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3, 6, 20, 30, 33, and 34 are allowable over the cited combinations, at least by virtue of the features recited in their base claims.

New claims 37-47 have been added to the application.

Claim 37 recites that the method of claim 1 further includes “detecting entry of the radio device into the at least one location where said at least one service is to be limited; and transmitting a message for display on the radio device indicating that said at least one service will be limited.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 38 recites “receiving a service request from a called party device to connect a call to the radio device, wherein said limiting includes limiting a terminating call service to the radio device to prevent connection of the call to the called party terminal based on the result of the

comparison.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 39 recites “transmitting a message to the called party terminal indicating that the radio device is limited from receiving the call.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 40 recites that the service limit information includes “one or more types of services; one or more identifiers for a corresponding number of geographic areas; and authorization information indicating that the radio device is restricted from receiving said one or more types of services in each of the geographic areas corresponding to said one or more identifiers.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 41 recites that “said one or more types of services includes a short message service.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 42 recites that “the short message service is an SMS service originating from the radio device.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 43 recites that “the short message service is an SMS service originating from another device attempting to establish call connection to the radio device.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

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Claim 44 recites that “said one or more types of services includes a roaming service.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 45 recites that “said one or more types of services includes a service from a packet network.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 46 recites that “the packet network service is a service originating from radio device.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 47 recites that “the packet network service is a service originating from another device attempting to establish call connection with the radio device.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this,

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concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and
please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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